

In The Works



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Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E.

Message from the Director

By Tom Wendorf, Director

The Public Works Department was recently recognized by the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) with an award for the departmental efforts in responding to Hurricane Katrina.

I know you'll recall the enormous effort that the Public Works team mounted throughout the month

of September 2005 – from turning vacant warehouses in to livable shelters to constructing restroom and laundry facilities to providing logistical support to other City departments (all while keeping the daily businesses of Public Works operating for the citizens of San Antonio) - this award recognizes that work.

The presentation will be on August 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. I'd like to have as many Public Works employees attend as possible. Supervisors will be coordinating attendance in the weeks to come. I truly appreciate the work that you all do for the community everyday. A Team like ours makes anything possible!

Message from the Director

Ethics Training Mandatory

The Ethics Code now requires that each department provide all employees with Ethics Code training at least once every other calendar year. The training initiative mentioned above fulfills this requirement. In addition, the Office of the City Attorney provides Ethics Code Training to any department upon request.

Ethics Training

8th Annual EPA MS4 Operator's Conference

EPA Came to Town

San Antonio hosted the 8th Annual Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) MS4 Operator's Conference at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk from June 26-30, 2006. This year marked the largest conference turn-out in its 8 year history, over 300 people from the 5 state region attended: Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Several Storm Water Operations employees were able to take advantage of the weeklong event by attending classroom style presentations, a field trip and an awards dinner that was held at Don Strange Ranch. Richard Martinez, Storm Water Operations Manager and Lisa McKenzie, Special Projects Officer, along with the other local planning committee members (SAWS, TCEQ and TxDOT) received plaques from the EPA for their support of Environmental Protection.



Become a blood donor and help save lives!!!!

City of San Antonio Employee Blood Drive/Main Plaza
Wednesday, July 19 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Email Pat Lopez @ plopez@sanantonio.gov to schedule your donation time.
Photo identification is required before beginning the donation process.

All presenting donors will receive a T-shirt and Santikos movie ticket.

Joyce Talerico-Riojas Right-of-Way Management Division



Joyce Talerico-Riojas has been employed with the Public Works Department for 29 years. She has been with the Right-of-Way Management Division since it became a division in 2001; however, she has devoted her 29 years of service to the Public Works Department and had dedicated herself to providing

outstanding customer service. She started as Payroll Clerk at Stinson Field in 1977 with Drainage Maintenance, and during her career has held several other jobs in the department such as: Clerk II with River Maintenance at Las Moras Yard, Adm. Asst. with Solid Waste at the Northwest Center, Construction Inspector with Inspections and Subdivisions (CIP), and 20 years as Adm. Asst. and Construction Coordinator with Streets and Drainage Operations at the Southeast Service Center.

Co-workers state that her presence makes the workplace pleasant and she is definitely a team player which reflects in her work. She has stated that she currently works with a great team and that during her tenure in this department has had the opportunity to work along side significant people who taught her valuable work ethics.

When questioned what changes have greatly altered the work place, Joyce responded, "technology".. It's made a tremendous difference especially with paperwork and customer service. She stated that at her job, she could never get bored, because everyday she is faced with a new challenge.

Joyce is a San Antonio native, attended Sidney Lanier High School. She is married to Roger, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren (and a new one on the way), 2 dogs (Abbey and Hannah). She, her husband and dogs do a lot of camping and fishing.

Her greatest professional success was her ability to work with and maintain a team of outstanding Inspectors and Administrative Staff.

Carlos Morales

Mill Operator

Mill and Overlay street application.



Richard Torres

Patch Truck Operator

Roger Carney Tommy Stevens

Laborers

Patching the road.



Carlos Gomez

Front-end Loader Operator

Mill and Overlay street application.

Polo Cervantes City Engineer



This past March our City Engineer, Polo Cervantes, was appointed to the State One Call Board by Governor Rick Perry. Polo was recommended for appointment by Senator Jeff Wentworth.

The One Call Boards main emphasis is how to educate the citizens and consultants on the importance of locating underground electric lines before digging. Polo will represent municipalities of Texas in the creation and reform of digging permit policy.

Polo will attend the next One Call Board meeting in Houston this August.

Remember to call **1 (800) 227-2600** before you dig!

Congratulations

CIP Reorganization Kent Hickingbottom

If you've been in the Municipal Plaza Building lately, you have seen some changes: the Capital Programs Division has reorganized! The Division has become One Team, rather than three smaller sections. This new approach is needed to help deliver projects more efficiently, utilize all members of the Division, create cohesion among the sections and prepare for a potential 2007 Bond Program.

The most obvious aspect of this reorganization has been the physical move of individuals and functions. No longer is the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) on one floor, the City Architect's Office (CAO) and Real Estate Section on others. A Project Manager-Architect and Real Estate Specialist are now housed with the existing CIP Team. The Project Manager-Architect will not report to the Project Manager-CIP, but will be able to utilize the resources of the team. With the reorganization, the Real Estate Specialist is now responsible for the real estate acquisitions within their team; although, the Real Estate Manager may decide to assign the Real Estate

Specialists other projects if one team has more projects than the other teams. Other changes include the Management Team (Capital Programs Manager, Assistant Capital Programs Manager, City Architect, Real Estate Manager, and Program Manager) residing in the same area. This physical move will create more cohesion among the sections.

While the City Architect's Office and Real Estate Section will retain their autonomy as separate sections, the groups have been physically dispersed throughout Capital Programs. The City Architect and Real Estate Manager will continue to lead the Architects and Real Estate Specialists respectively by assigning the projects to their members.

In addition, new teams were created with existing personnel. A team was added to handle special projects and special functions. This team will handle all aspects of Program Management including the Web Portal, development of the 2007 Bond Program, database maintenance, all Project System refinements and administrative tasks.

Two other teams (Customer Service and Payroll) have been created to handle specific tasks. The Customer Service Team will provide one point of contact for all calls into the main Capital Programs phone numbers. The Customer Service Group will also be responsible for the filing of all Capital Programs files (which will now be housed in one location), mail, and processing TSPW requests. The Payroll group will allow for more equal distribution of workload and standardization of all human resources procedures within the Division.

The reorganization improves the standardization of processes so there is less opportunity for deviation; it allows for fewer coordination points than previously existed which will result in less potential for data entry and communication errors. Finally, the byproduct of the physical move enhances employee development for all members of the Division. Everyone is provided the opportunity to learn about others' roles in the process of delivering projects on or ahead of schedule and under budget.

Program Highlight

Alamodome Projects By Southern Ellis, Architect Intern

Since 1993 San Antonians have become accustomed to the Alamodome's prominent structural members, often drawing comparisons to a dead armadillo, rising into the skyline. The original \$186 million dollar project, has hosted a multitude of events over the years, ranging from sports competitions of every kind and at every level, to events such as car shows, circuses, and graduations spaced in-between. Certainly every San Antonian has a memory of a distinct event that occurred in the Alamodome. This being said, it seems amazing that until a few years ago the Alamodome had remained nearly unchanged from its original condition. This left the aging structure in dire need of improvements and renovations.

In December of 2003 the city of San Antonio approved an ordinance to begin interior improvements, specifically to give "The Dome" an interior freshening for the upcoming 2004 NCAA Basketball Championship. This date certain project, which the Alamodome brought to Public Works on Halloween 2003, started construction on January 5, 2004, leaving only 75 calendar days until required completion for the finale of March Madness. The design and team worked to renovate various Dome levels and restrooms. In addition new floor finishes, support lighting, painting, and various other architectural detail improvements were added to the north and south lobbies of the building. At the completion of the \$900,000 project, the Alamodome and San Antonio were ready for the global stage of the Final Four. At the conclusion of the event, a NCAA Champion was crowned, but it was San Antonio and the newly renovated

Alamodome that also reaped the praise for magnificently hosting such a successful

These renovations were the beginning of a rollout of work that was needed in order to maintain and modernize the aging structure. Since these initial renovations, other improvements have taken place, or are in the works. The Alamodome's Department has already added interior video screens and an exterior information marquee, and plans to revamp the audio system in the near future. A new turf system was also added to the buildings features making the already versatile building even more appealing and adaptable for possible uses.

Construction has recently begun on 14 new multi-use club level suites, in unison to the freshening of the existing 38 suites already in the building. As is always the case with the Alamodome, construction will be challenging due to the fact that there will be ongoing events and operations overlapping the building process, coupled with a date certain completion requirement. Like most city renovations and work, the objective is that events and operations will not be disrupted by construction. This \$1,264,600 project, which was brought to Public Works in late March of 2006, is scheduled to be complete in August 2006, just in time to host the AT&T Corps Classic football game between Texas A&M and Army on September 16th.

These suite improvements were preceded by a \$155,000 Structural Examination consisting of the inspection of the Alamodome's critical structural members and secondary members in order to check their

overall condition and integrity. Upon the completion of the inspection it was concluded that these elements, which have been in place since the building's construction in 1993, were fine and in working order. With this preliminary work done the Alamodome will now begin the process of painting these steel exterior structural elements, which, again, feature the same paint that they came out of the factory with, and have since become subject to extensive fading and rust. Construction on this \$1,200,000 painting project is expected to get underway in August 2006. An important feature of the project is the use of an environmental friendly painting procedure consisting of a peel away removal process to contain any mess and a hand applied painting process to prevent any air-borne property damage, which is often a problem with regular spray-on paint procedures.

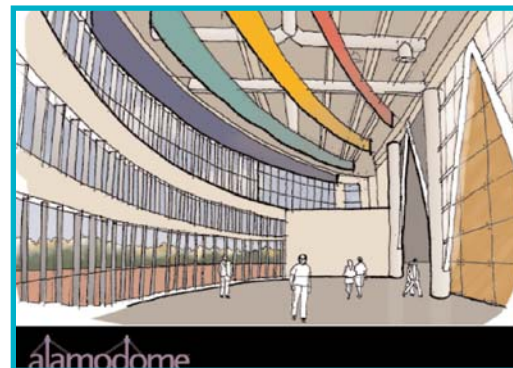
The completion of this painting project will mark the end of another much needed renovation to the ever useful Alamodome, adding it among an impressive list of very successful projects over the last few years, which have been conducted separately due to the large scale and specialization of each.

"With your expertise that you bring to the projects, we are fulfilling our goals in finalizing these projects that have been on our schedule for years," said Jim Mery of the Alamodome in reference to the work Chester Slimp and the City of San Antonio Public Works Department. These renovation projects insure that the Alamodome will continue to be a staple in the lives of San Antonians, in addition to drawing numbers of people to our city.

Before



Architects concept of finished Lobby



Tips for Easy Bicycle Commuting



Follow these steps to ensure a safe and comfortable ride to work

- 1 **Start slow and easy.** Try leaving your car at home one day a week at first. Commuting by bicycle on a part-time basis, maybe once or twice a week, can substantially decrease your car usage and spending.
- 2 **Don't feel forced to go the distance.** If your commute is a long one, combine transportation modes. All VIA buses are equipped with bike racks, that way you can ride a bike to your nearest bus stop then take the bus the remainder of the trip.
- 3 **Map your route.** When you are on a bike, the shortest route is not necessarily the best idea—especially if it is on a major highway. Look for streets with bike lanes, and avoid high-speed routes with no shoulders. To find good routes, check the City's or MPO's Web site.
- 4 **Test it first.** Give your route a trial run on the weekend so you can work get an idea of how long it will take you.



5 **Find a bike buddy.** Riding with others can make your ride more pleasurable and safer. Someone more experienced can give you tips on routes, safety, and parking. The Alamo Area Council of Governments will offer to match you with other bikers near your work or home, follow the link to bike buddies at www.aacog.com.



6 **Know the rules of the road for bicycles.** In the State of Texas bicycles are considered vehicles, which means that bike riders must follow the same rules as motorists (riding in the same direction as other traffic, signaling turns, stopping at red lights and stop signs, etc.).

7 **Find parking.** The City of San Antonio has over 100 bike racks.

8 **Have a cleanup plan.** If your workplace has shower facilities consider yourself lucky. City employees can use the San Fernando Gym or Police Station. If all else fails, you can use a restroom's sink to do quick a splash bath.

9 **Carry emergency tools.** If you ride regularly, sooner or later you may get a flat tire. Many bike shops routinely offer free maintenance clinics so you can learn emergency repairs and how to keep your bicycle in good working order.



10 **Inspect your bike before every ride.** Check your tire pressure and pump your tires up to the appropriate pressure, then make sure the brakes are working and that your bike is shifting properly. It's also a good idea to regularly clean your bike, lube your chain and inflate your tires. Tires can lose their treads. Brakes get worn. The wear and tear of riding and hitting bumps can loosen handle bars and other vital parts. Have your bike regularly tuned up at a bike shop.

Why Riding a Bike is a Good Thing

Do it for your Health

Biking is a great cardiovascular workout and does wonders for circulation and muscle tone. It's much easier to stay fit when you work exercise into your daily routine.

Save Time

Biking is often faster than driving and you don't waste time looking for parking. Exercising while commuting could save you a trip to the Gym!

Save Money

No Gas! No Insurance! No Parking! No Gym Membership! No Headaches!

Have Fun

Biking is lots of fun! San Antonio is a beautiful city to bike through with over 190 miles of bike routes and lanes.



Keep Our Planet Green

Bicycles do not use fossil fuels, cause ozone depletion, or emit deadly pollutants.

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Public Works Department
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E-mail: akinnison@sanantonio.gov

Word Search

D N O U G T H E L I T T E R R
M B O U G W X S O L I A D O S
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CUSTOMERSERVICE
DUR
ENGINEERING
LED
MAINTENANCE

RECLAIMER
ROADS
SPEEDHUMP
STORMDRAIN
STORMWATER
SURVEYOR
TUNNELS

Congratulations to the Sudoka Puzzle winners: Rocky A. Aranda, Benjamin S. Mora, Alice Renebato



City of San Antonio **WARNING**



Effective July 8, 2006, City Ordinance will prohibit the unauthorized display of vehicles for sale on all properties and public rights-of-way. The manner in which this vehicle is parked and displayed at this location causes a presumption of an unauthorized sale under this ordinance.

Violations are subject to an immediate citation and possible towing and impoundment of the vehicle at your expense.